Applicant: Ivan J. Baiges Serial No.: 10/057,619 Filed: January 24, 2002 Docket No.: 10017070-1

Title: INKJET PRINTING SYSTEM EMPLOYING MULTIPLE INKJET PRINTHEADS AND METHOD OF

PERFORMING A PRINTING OPERATION

REMARKS

The following remarks are made in response to the Non-Final Office Action mailed January 24, 2003, in which claims 1-34 were rejected. With this Amendment, claims 1, 19 and 29-34 have been amended to clarify Applicant's invention and claims 35-43 have been added. Claims 1-43, therefore, are presented for reconsideration and allowance.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-6, 8, 10-12, 14-17, 19-24, 30, 31 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by the Gandy et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,376,957. Claims 1-7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 16, 19, 20, 25-30 and 32-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by the Simon et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,428,375. Claims 1-4, 9, 18-20 and 25-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by the Chapin et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,838,343.

With this Amendment, independent claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the printing system includes "a first marking engine for depositing a first marking fluid only on a first portion of a first side of the print media," and "a second marking engine for depositing a second marking fluid only on a second portion of the first side of the print media," and that "the first marking engine and the second marking engine are adapted to move back and forth across the print media while depositing the respective first and second marking fluid on the respective first and second portion of the print media."

With respect to the Gandy et al., Simon et al., and Chapin et al. patents, none of these patents teach or suggest a printing system, as claimed in claim 1, including a first marking engine for depositing a first marking fluid only on a first portion of a first side of the print media, and a second marking engine for depositing a second marking fluid only on a second portion of the first side of the print media, wherein the first marking engine and the second marking engine are adapted to move back and forth across the print media while depositing the respective first and second marking fluid on the respective first and second portion of the print media.

In view of the above, Applicant submits that independent claim 1 is patentably distinct from the Gandy et al., Simon et al., and Chapin et al. patents and, therefore, in a condition for allowance. Furthermore, as dependent claims 2-18 and 35-37 further define

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patentably distinct claim 1, Applicant submits that dependent claims 2-18 and 35-37 are also in condition for allowance. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the rejections of claims 1-18 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) be reconsidered and withdrawn and that claims 1-18 and 35-37 be allowed.

With this Amendment, independent claim 19 has been amended to clarify that the printing system includes a first mechanism for moving a first printhead assembly relative to the print media "so that the first printhead assembly can deposit ink on a first portion of a first side of the print media while the first printhead assembly moves back and forth across the print media," and a second mechanism for moving a second printhead assembly relative to the print media "so that the second printhead assembly can deposit ink on a second portion of the first side of the print media while the second printhead assembly moves back and forth across the print media."

With respect to the Gandy et al., Simon et al., and Chapin et al. patents, none of these patents teach or suggest an inkjet printing system, as claimed in claim 19, including a first mechanism for moving a first printhead assembly relative to the print media so that the first printhead assembly can deposit ink on a first portion of a first side of the print media while the first printhead assembly moves back and forth across the print media, and a second mechanism for moving a second printhead assembly relative to the print media so that the second printhead assembly can deposit ink on a second portion of the first side of the print media while the second printhead assembly moves back and forth across the print media.

In view of the above, Applicant submits that independent claim 19 is patentably distinct from the Gandy et al., Simon et al., and Chapin et al. patents and, therefore, in a condition for allowance. Furthermore, as dependent claims 20-29 and 38-40 further define patentably distinct claim 19, Applicant submits that dependent claims 20-29 and 38-40 are also in condition for allowance. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the rejections of claims 19-29 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) be reconsidered and withdrawn and that claims 19-29 and 38-40 be allowed.

With this Amendment, independent claim 30 has been amended to clarify that the method for performing a printing operation includes "moving the first and second printhead assemblies back and forth across the print media while the first printhead assembly deposits

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ink only on a first portion of a first side of the print media and the second printhead assembly deposits ink only on a second portion of the first side of the print media."

With respect to the Gandy et al., Simon et al., and Chapin et al. patents, none of these patents teach or suggest a method for performing a printing operation, as claimed in claim 30, including moving the first and second printhead assemblies back and forth across the print media while the first printhead assembly deposits ink only on a first portion of a first side of the print media and the second printhead assembly deposits ink only on a second portion of the first side of the print media.

In view of the above, Applicant submits that independent claim 30 is patentably distinct from the Gandy et al., Simon et al., and Chapin et al. patents and, therefore, in a condition for allowance. Furthermore, as dependent claims 31-34 and 41-43 further define patentably distinct claim 30, Applicant submits that dependent claims 31-34 and 41-43 are also in condition for allowance. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the rejections of claims 30-34 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) be reconsidered and withdrawn and that claims 30-34 and 41-43 be allowed.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that pending claims 1-43 are all in condition for allowance and requests reconsideration of the application and allowance of all pending claims.

Any inquiry regarding this Amendment and Response should be directed to Robert D. Wasson at Telephone No. (925) 878-9368, Facsimile No. (858) 655-5859. In addition, all correspondence should continue to be directed to the following address:

Hewlett-Packard Company Intellectual Property Administration P.O. Box 272400 Fort Collins, Colorado 80527-2400

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Respectfully submitted,

Ivan J. Baiges,

By his attorneys,

DICKE, BILLIG & CZAJA, P.A.

701 Building, Suite 1250 701 Fourth Avenue South Minneapolis, MN 55415 Telephone: (612) 573-2006 Facsimile: (612) 573-2005

Date:

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